Join us as professional genealogists John Barr and Amber Oldenburg dig deep into land records. Broaden your understanding of land records, the clues they can provide, and how it all fits into your genealogical research.

John Barr presents “Map Reading for Genealogists: When North isn't...” Locating a piece of property using the legal descriptions from deeds and patents does not have to be intimidating. Understanding the terminology and methods used by surveyors from days gone past will make locating your ancestor’s real property a lot easier. Knowing that north may not be north as we think of it will help put that 1850 property on a current map!

Amber Oldenburg presents “Land Records: A Family Historian’s ‘Bread and Butter.’” In the United States, a large portion of the population outside of cities owned land. This means that your ancestors most likely owned. In this session, you will learn what land records are, why they are so valuable, and how to use these records to further your genealogical research. The more you know about land records, the more you will know about your ancestors.

John is currently the President of the Indiana Chapter of the Association of Professorial Genealogists and sole proprietor of Old Northwest Genealogy, a genealogy research company. John specializes in 18th and 19th century research with an emphasis on land and probate records with over twenty five years of experience in the Midwest. His areas of research concentrate on the Midwest states of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, and Minnesota; however, his research has also often led to the far reaches of the United States.

Amber is a genealogist and educator who has recently graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in University Studies and an Associate degree in Family History Research from Brigham Young University-Idaho. This winter she served as an ambassador for the world’s largest family history conference, RootsTech. She is the Central District Director for the Indiana Genealogical Society and Vice President of the Indiana Chapter of the Palatines to America. She also serves on the board of the local chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists. She specializes in United States Midwest research but has experience with research in Germany and the British Isles.